

Meeting Date: January 17, 2008

Agenda Item No. 20

Agenda Item: Land Legacy Project update

Approved by: BB

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Background:

During the May 2006 workshop in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; the Commission heard IDFG staff presentations about how accelerating changes in Idaho land use threaten fish and wildlife habitats and populations, fish and wildlife recreation, and public access. And the Commission directed the Department to move forward with implementation of the Land Legacy project as outlined by staff.

In May 2007, staff provided an update to the Commission about the project and efforts to: 1) establish a Trust and/or Endowment, 2) develop a settlement proposal to present to BPA in coordination with Tribal mitigation partners, 3) dispose of IDFG surplus properties, and 4) develop Conceptual Area Plans. Commission directed IDFG to table efforts to develop Conceptual Area Plans as well as commence property disposal efforts with intent of Commission not to limit how or to whom backcountry ranches could be sold.

Information in this update include status reports on: 1) efforts to negotiate settlement agreements for wildlife mitigation debt with BPA and Tribal partners, 2) sale of surplus lands, 3) establishment of a Land Legacy Trust or Endowment, and 4) communication efforts on behalf of the Land Legacy project.

Policy issues:

Habitat protection, land acquisition, fish and wildlife recreation, public access

Public Involvement Process:

Informational presentations and outreach efforts about the project.

Justification:

Loss of fish and wildlife habitat, migration and linkage areas, and public access

Action Requested:

None

Staff Recommendations:

Continue efforts of Idaho Land Legacy Project